

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

At Page 4, after line 17, please insert the following paragraph:

FIG. 26 is a section of an illustrative joint.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 6. line 21 as follows:

The first panel portion 14 optionally may be secured to the second panel portion 16 employing one or more joints 18 of any suitable structure; in some embodiments there may be no joint at all. In the embodiment shown, the joints 18 preferably are adhesive joints, however, other suitable attachments (e.g., as a result of a tack-off) may be employed in lieu of or in combination with the adhesive. One preferred adhesive joint will employ an adhesive in contact with the entire opposing joining surfaces of the respective panel portions (e.g., about substantially the entire periphery). However, another joint contemplates intermittent placement of the adhesive for contacting selected portions of the opposing joining surfaces (e.g., intermittently spaced about the periphery). In another embodiment, it may be possible to secure the panel portions together with a combination of attachments. For example, a mechanical interlock or interference joint, friction fit joint, a fastener, or a combination thereof might be employed in addition to or in place of adhesive. Examples of suitable joints which might be employed in accordance with the present invention can be found in commonly owned and copending U.S. Application Serial Nos. 09/825,721 and 09/826,477, hereby expressly incorporated by reference for all purposes. An example of one such mechanical interlock is illustrated in Fig. 26. To aid in adhesion of the joints one or more of the work pieces may be suitably surface treated, such as with a suitable primer, a plasma surface treatment or a combination thereof.